WHITE RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

March 2003

Approved by:

Date: March 20/03

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Date: Mar 21/03

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WHITE RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role
The **primary** role of White River Park is to protect and present an old growth Douglas-fir stand. This stand of fir is so impressive that the loggers operating in the area refused to fall any of the trees, and it has been described as a "Mini Cathedral Grove". By protecting this stand of forest, habitat for Roosevelt elk, black bear and fish is also protected. Summer steelhead, summer coho, rainbow trout, and anadromous Dolly Varden are all found in this section of the White River.

Secondary Role
The **secondary** role is to provide a river fishing opportunity. The park is located on the White River, approximately 25 kilometres south of Sayward and seven kilometres west of Schoen Lake Provincial Park on Vancouver Island. In the provision of recreation, the park serves to provide local recreation opportunities, and thus meet the goal for providing local recreation.

Management Issues

Known Management Issue	Response
Impact of adjacent logging and timber theft on hydrology and other natural values	➢ Work with Ministry of Forests to address management of adjacent areas to protect park features. Ensure appropriate hydrology, windthrow and recharge area testing has been completed before harvesting proceeds. ➢ Work with other agencies to increase patrols to stop illegal timber theft.
Lack of identification and public awareness of park	➢ Explore a forest stewardship agreement with forest companies and local community to develop trail/parking lot and interpretive information to help protect park values. ➢ Install boundary and directional signs so that the park is easier to find.

Zoning

Natural Environment Zone – covers the entire park (68 hectares) in recognition of the natural and recreational values. The objective of this zone is to protect scenic values and to provide recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

Conservation

Representation - ecosection	☒	Contributes minimally (0.13%) to the representation of the Northern Island Mountains Ecosection, which has only 9.12% protected provincially.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	☒	Very minimal contribution of 0.04% to the representation of CWHvm1, which has only 7.01% protected provincially, but is significant as an old growth remnant of this highly impacted variant.
Special Features	☒	Old growth forest; elk, bear, and fish habitat
Rare/Endangered Values	☒	Blue-listed Roosevelt elk and Dolly Varden.
Scientific/Research Opportunities	☒	Ecological integrity of remnant patches of old growth and their value as wildlife habitat

Recreation

Representation		
backcountry	☐	Not Applicable
destination	☐	Possible destination to view big trees
travel corridor	☐	Not Applicable
local recreation	☒	Angling
Special Opportunities	☐	Not Applicable
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	☒	Old growth

Cultural Heritage

Representation	☐	Values unknown
Special Feature	☐	None known at this time

Other Management Considerations

Other Designations	☐	Not Applicable
Relationship to other PAs	☒	Part of a system of protected areas in the north end of Vancouver Island
Co-operative Management Arrangements	☐	Not Applicable
Partnerships	☐	Not Applicable
Vulnerability	☒	Vulnerable to adjacent logging and timber theft, and small size limits ability to protect values

Relationship to other Strategies	☒	Created as a result of recommendations made in the Vancouver Island Land Use Plan Goal 2 process.

Area: 68 hectares

Date of establishment: April 30, 1996

Zoning Map - White River Provincial Park

Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 100
m

Produced in Apr 2003 for Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection by MSRM, Decision Support Services

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